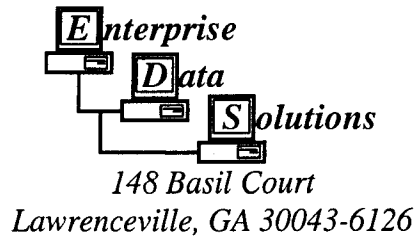


**From:** Bob Petolillo  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/28/02 12:14pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Please see the attached letter concerning the lawsuit against Microsoft.

Bob Petolillo



Attorney General John Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

January 26, 2002

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

As a member of the IT industry, I welcome an end to the Microsoft anti-trust case. This case has had a debilitating effect on the IT industry and the economy in general. If fair competition is the desired end to the government's actions, competition is not encouraged by draining the energy of one competitor. You do not get a better race by hobbling the favorite. However, a means to end this case exists in the proposed settlement agreement before you now for consideration. It should be adopted and this case resolved.

The settlement fairly deals with the positions of all the parties. Microsoft, by its terms, will remain one sole corporation, but will take certain actions to dilute its monopolistic influences in its industry. Microsoft will now configure its Windows platforms to invite the use of non-Microsoft software. It will no longer contractually constrain computer manufacturers to the nearly exclusive use of Microsoft products in licensing agreements. It will submit itself to ongoing review by a new federal oversight committee. It has committed itself to a completely new method of doing business entailing an active effort to foster competition.

Microsoft deserves to continue to thrive. It is an elemental force in perhaps our nation's most important industry. Please support this settlement.

Sincerely,

Robert Petolillo  
Robert Petolillo

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